

EDUCATION — DEPARTMENTAL AMALGAMATION

**339. Hon DONNA FARAGHER to the Minister for Education and Training:**

I refer to the amalgamation of the Department of Education, Department of Education Services and School Curriculum and Standards Authority that will take effect on 1 July 2017.

- (1) Will the functions of the chief executive officer referred to in the School Education Act 1999, including those referred to in section 156C and in sections under part 4, division 3B, “Registration of non-government schools”, and division 4, “Inspection of registered schools”, now be undertaken by the director general of the Department of Education, or will this be delegated to another officer within the department?
- (2) If there is to be a delegation of the functions referred to in (1), who will perform those functions?
- (3) What other procedures are being put in place to maintain the current level of separation between the government and non-government school sectors that was achieved through the functions of the Department of Education Services?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question

- (1) The director general of the Department of Education will be the chief executive officer referred to in section 151 of the School Education Act 1999. Therefore, the director general will undertake the functions mentioned in the question.
- (2) Under the current interim structure, the director general will undertake the functions. These functions may be delegated when the final structure has been decided.
- (3) The current level of separation will continue to be maintained. I have made the point to representatives of the sector that I am currently the Minister for Education, which includes non-government and government schools, and that I will continue to be the minister for non-government and government schools. For example, under the act the minister will continue to make all decisions on funding for non-government schools, be the decision-maker in relation to advanced determination, and approve the standards for non-government school registration.