

EDUCATION — REGIONAL LEARNING SPECIALISTS

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

I refer to the answer given to question without notice 888, asked on 9 October 2018, regarding regional learning specialists.

- (1) Can the minister confirm that regional learning specialists will now be based at the Statewide Services Centre, not the School of Isolated and Distance Education; and, if yes, will the minister advise the reasons for the change?
- (2) Will these specialists report to SIDE; and, if yes, to whom?
- (3) If no to (2), to which division and officer within the Department of Education will they report?
- (4) What protocols or operational plans have been developed to ensure that these specialists liaise closely with SIDE staff, including SIDE student coordinators and supervisors?
- (5) How does their role differ from the supports already provided through SIDE and its staff?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

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

- (1) Yes. The transfer of responsibility for the regional learning specialist initiative from the School of Isolated and Distance Education to the Statewide Services Centre in Padbury was to enable the team to be part of the broader teaching and learning supports and services available to schools and regions.
- (2) No.
- (3) The RLS team will report to the manager, teacher development, in the statewide services division.
- (4) During term 4, 2018, new team members will engage in a comprehensive induction and planning process, including liaising with SIDE to establish protocols and processes for working collaboratively.
- (5) The RLS team will be able to provide more face-to-face support and complement the work of SIDE teachers through —
  - (a) providing fortnightly online tutorials, which are additional to the online classes provided to students by regular SIDE teachers;
  - (b) conducting intensive exam revision sessions, face-to-face or online as practicable; and
  - (c) working face-to-face with students once a term for a week at a time, for each course being delivered to a school.