

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — VIOLENCE POLICIES REVIEW

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

I refer to the minister's public comments that she has requested a review of school violence policies and her statement on ABC online news, and I quote —

“I've asked the Department to work with all of the stakeholders, including staff, to review all of our existing policies about how we prevent and how we respond to violence,” ...

- (1) What are the terms of reference for this review?
- (2) When is the review expected to be completed and will the results be made public?
- (3) Who has the department already consulted with as part of the review?
- (4) In addition to those identified in (3), who else will be consulted as part of the review?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1) I have asked the Department of Education to undertake this review to review existing policies and procedures and potential further measures to assist schools to prevent and respond to incidents of violence and aggression, and what policy changes will be required to implement these measures.
- (2) The consultation for the review will be completed by July 2018 and changes implemented as soon as practicable. I anticipate that all actions will be completed by the end of the 2018 school year. Department of Education policies relating to violence in schools are already public and will continue to be so, regardless of any changes that emerge from the review.
- (3) As minister, I have started, with the department, consultation with the State School Teachers' Union of WA, the Community and Public Sector Union–Civil Service Association of WA, the Western Australia Council of State School Organisations Inc, the Principals' Federation of Western Australia, the Western Australian Primary Principals Association, the Western Australian Secondary School Executives Association and United Voice.
- (4) I am planning to meet with the Western Australian District High School Administrators Association, the Western Australian Education Support Principals and Administrators Association, Catholic Education Western Australia and the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia.